JOHN ABBOTT CEGEP/COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

A.GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. Program name(s) (if applicable):	Arts & Sciences (700.A1)
2. Course title:	**History of Western Civilization**
3. Course and section number(s):	330-A1S-AB, section 01
4. Ponderation (weekly class – lab/fieldwork – homework hours):	3-0-2
5. Credits:	2
6. Competency statement(s) and code(s):	7HS1: Explain the development of Western civilization through the study of its historical legacies, from Antiquity to the contemporary era. Covered: R Completely
7. Prerequisite (if any):	None
8. Semester:	Fall 2025
9. Teacher name(s), (pronouns if desired):	Nicholas Tošaj, Ph.D.
10. extension (email address optional):	H-306 514-457-6610, ext. 5714
11.	Office Hours*: M/W 11:30-12:00, 15:30-16:00 F 12:30-13:00 or by appointment *Office hours may be changed during the semester, if such a change occurs students will be advised via MIO

Approved at Academic Council 2022-04-22

B. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

John Abbott College is on unceded Indigenous lands of the traditional territory of both the Kanien'kehá:ka, "Mohawk," and the Anishinabeg "Algonquin," peoples.

We are grateful for the opportunity to gather there, and we thank the many generations of people who have taken care of this land and these waters. Tiohtiá:ke, Montreal, is historically known as a gathering place for diverse First Nations; thus, we recognize and deeply appreciate the historic and ongoing Indigenous connections to, and presence on, these lands and waters. We also recognize the contributions Métis, Inuit, and other Indigenous peoples have made in shaping and strengthening our communities.
Together, as a diverse college community, we commit to building a sincere relationship with Indigenous peoples based on respect, dignity, trust, and cooperation, in the process of advancing truth and reconciliation.

C. INTRODUCTION (including any program-related information):

Course summary:
This course is an introduction to the history of Western Civilization through a global lens. We will study many of the factors that influenced Western history, including politics, geography, economics, philosophy, religion, culture, science, and technology. The course is organized chronologically, beginning with a brief discussion of ancient civilizations, and ending with Western Civilization in more modern times.

Role and place of the course:
This course is required for all students in the Arts & Sciences Program. It addresses both ministerial objectives. It also serves as a prerequisite for all other history courses offered at John Abbott. This course contributes to the attainment of two out of the four Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE) Objectives: Objective 1 - Causes, and Objective 2 - Impacts.

D. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

7HS1: Explain the development of Western civilization through the study of its historical legacies, from Antiquity to the contemporary era.	
Elements of the Competency	**Performance Criteria**
1. Recognize what characterizes the construction of historical knowledge.	• Demonstration of critical thinking in the interpretation of historical legacies of Western civilization.
2. Contextualize, in time and space, the development of Western civilization.	• Relevant determination of the causes and consequences which explain the development

3. Define the economic, political, social and cultural characteristics of Western civilization. **4.** Explain the interactions between the structures and ideas that contributed to the development of Western civilization. **5.** Examine the contribution of a historical heritage of Western civilization.	of Western civilization. • Use of appropriate vocabulary. • Quality of the English language and

E. EVALUATION PLAN (include all components of the evaluation and their weights – IPESA Article 6):

Evaluation type:	**%**	**Tentative date:**	**Link to elements of the competency:**	**√ if part of final evaluation**
Quizzes* & In-class assignments	15%	Throughout semester	1, 2, 3	
Participation	10%	Throughout semester	1,2,3,4,5	
Midterm exam	20%	Mid-semester	1, 2, 3 ,4	x
Essay	30%	See tentative Schedule	1, 2, 4, 5	X
Final exam	25%	Final exam period	1, 2, 3, 4	X
Total value:	*100 %*			
Value of final eval (min 40%):	*60%*			

PARTICIPATION

Student participation will be assessed based on in-class participation and engagement. Engagement is defined as; answering discussion questions, asking and answering questions in class and participating in class activities.

QUIZZES & In-class Assignments

Each regular class has assigned readings, as indicated in the schedule.
The primary criteria for the quizzes and small assignments is to demonstrate that you have read the assigned readings, watched the prescribed documentaries, studied your course notes and have understood what you have read/noted and can apply that knowledge in different contexts.

***There are NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES , to compensate for this the lowest graded**

quiz will be dropped

MIDTERM, ESSAY & FINAL EXAM

You will have a midterm test, the date that it is scheduled is listed on the tentative course schedule. There will also be a final exam. Both essays will be primarily essay-based.

During each regular class, we will examine a specific historical issue or problem. In order to attain the stated competency for this course, it is essential to do the readings and attend classes. The test and exam are designed to assess your ability to understand and to analyze the historical issues covered in the chapters and in class, **while readings and lectures will sometimes overlap there is content that will only be covered in class and other content that will only be covered in the readings.**

The midterm, essay and final exam will be graded according to the following criteria:

*use of critical thinking skills to demonstrate a general understanding of the global historical context and issues.
*ability to make evidence-based arguments and apply acquired knowledge of history.
*presentation of clear, grammatical correct sentences and paragraphs, integrated into a
structured essay with an introduction, body paragraphs and a conclusion.

For more information consult the course competencies above.

F. COURSE CONTENT:

Course content will cover Western Civilization beginning with Ancient Greece and end with Modern History. See course schedule for more details.

G. REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/MATERIALS, COURSE COSTS IN ADDITION TO TEXTS (must follow College guidelines):

Title/Item:	**Estimated cost ($):**
Spielvogel, Jackson J. *Western Civilization: A Brief History*. 10th ed. Boston: Wadsworth Publishing, 2017. **The 9th edition is also acceptable, please buy used if possible**	e-book: $79.95 OR paper: $109.95

H. BIBLIOGRAPHY (if applicable):

Suggested books, articles, videos, websites, podcasts that can supplement

the course material:
Supplementary readings may be assigned via LEA

I. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:

Methods used in teaching the course (e.g. lectures, multi-media, group work, etc.):
The class meets twice a week. Class time will be devoted to discussion, lectures, activities and the development of historical research techniques including essay writing skills and proper citation methods. Students will be expected to watch the videos and to use video content, in addition to in-class discussions and assigned readings, to inform their course work.

J. PROGRAM, DEPARTMENTAL/DISIPLINE, AND COURSE/SECTION POLICIES:

Policy: Usage	**No use of generative artificial intelligence will be permitted in this course**, this includes (but is not limited to) the use of Grammarly, Chat GPT, Perplexity, Gemini, etc. Use of AI will be considered to be cheating (see "cheating and plagiarism" below). Should you have any questions about what is considered AI usage in this course please do not hesitate to reach out to me. **It is the responsibility of students to provide an essay with a traceable version history, more information will be provided in class.**
Attendance	The College expects students to attend all class sessions. Students will find it difficult to successfully complete the course if they do not attend class regularly. Refer to the IPESA for the complete rules.
Late submissions of course work	Your teacher may deduct up to 10% per calendar day for late assignments. Late essays will be deducted one point per calendar day.
Make-up assignments	These will only be permitted for exams missed for reasons judged valid by the instructor, or by the college.
Cheating and plagiarism	All proven cases of plagiarism and/or cheating will result in a grade of 0 for that task, and written notification will be sent to the Registrar.

K. COLLEGE POLICIES:

Topic:	**Resource:**
Student rights and responsibilities (articles 3.2 and 3.3)	

Changes to evaluation plan in the course outline (article 5.3)	https://johnabbott.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Policy-No.-7-IPESA-FINAL.pdf
Religious holidays (articles 3.2.13 and 4.1)	
Cheating and plagiarism (articles 9.1 and 9.2)	
Cheating and plagiarism academic procedure and other resources	Academic Integrity: Cheating and Plagiarism Procedure (version: October 22, 2021) • **You need to log into Omnivox to access the above document** • **For PowerPoint on cheating and plagiarism** refer to the JAC Portal: My JAC Communities / Academic Council / Curriculum Validation Committee (CVC) / Course Outlines – Reference Documents / Academic Integrity • **For link to interactive tutorial on how to cite sources correctly**: http://citeit.ccdmd.qc.ca
Code of conduct	Policy 13: Policy on Student Conduct and Discipline Procedures (version: September 21, 2021)

L. INSTRUCTOR POLICIES REGARDING IN-CLASS BEHAVIOUR:

To maintain a good learning environment for all concerned, certain conditions must be maintained: Classes start on time. You are expected to…

1) arrive on time and remain for the duration. Students who leave before the end of class without having explicit permission to do so will forfeit their participation marks for the class. They will also be required to write a 500 word essay on content covered in the class that they left before being re-admitted for the next class. Please consult with your instructor before class to request permission to leave partway through class.
2) turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices deemed by the instructor to be distracting.
3) not wear headphones, earbuds or smart devices during lectures/exams.
4) not engage in disruptive behavior (such as talking, text messaging, internet browsing, reading)

In addition to the above;

5) Students using laptops are asked to sit at the back of the classroom in order to avoid distracting their colleagues. Use of laptops for reasons other than those related to course content may result in the banning of laptops in class for everyone.
6) Unauthorized recording of lectures is strictly forbidden.

Disruptive student(s) will be asked to leave.

M. STUDY QUESTIONS:

Study questions provided in the tentative schedule serve to assist students in preparing for the midterm and final exams. Midterm & final questions **will be inspired by the study questions listed in the schedule will not be identical**. Exam questions may combine different components of the study questions or be based on themes or topics covered by the questions in a broader sense. Changes to the study questions may be made at the instructor's discretion at any time.

N. TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

The tentative course schedule is subject to change, should the schedule be changed it will be uploaded to LEA as a separate file with the date of the update listed alongside it. Should the schedule change the separate file uploaded on LEA will take precedence over the version listed in the course outline.

WEEK		TOPIC	READINGS DUE	EVALUATION	STUDY QUESTIONS
1	21 Aug	Introduction to the course	Chapter 1		How do you define Western Civilization?
2	25 Aug	Ancient Greece & the Hellenistic World	Chapters 2-3		What was the polis, and why is it considered by many historians to be an important development in the political history of Western Civilization?
	27 Aug	Roman Republic	Chapter 5		What were key elements which led to the creation of the Roman Republic?
3	1 Sep	Labour Day – No Class			
	3 Sep	Roman Empire & the Rise of Christianity	Chapter 6		How did the Roman Empire differ from the Republic? How did the empire aid in the diffusion of Christianity?

4	8 Sep	Medieval Europe	Chapters 7-8		What role did Christianity play in the Medieval Period? How did it shape geopolitics in Europe and beyond?
	10 Sep	The Renaissance	Chapter 12		How did the Renaissance shape Western Civilization? Why do scholars refer to the period as the Renaissance?
5	15 Sep	The Protestant Reformation & Religious Conflict	Chapter 13		What is a Protestant? How do Protestants and Catholics differ? How have the religious distinctions between Protestants and Catholics shaped Western Civilization?
	17 Sep	The Age of Exploration, the Columbian Exchange, Colonialism and the Slave Trade	Chapter 14		How did European exploration in the 15th century onwards shape the world we live in today? What was the Atlantic Slave Trade? How did it come about, what are its impacts?
6	22	Absolutism,	Chapter 16		What new ideas

	Sep	the Scientific Revolution and the Enlightenment			surfaced during the Scientific Revolution and the Enlightenment? How did these ideas shape the Western World?
	24 Sep	Writing a College Level History Essay: Referencing, Tips, Tricks & Academic Integrity & Revision			
7	29 Sep	**Midterm**		**Midterm (20%)**	
	1 Oct	An Age of Revolutions Part 1	Chapter 17		How were the American Revolution and French Revolution connected? What factors caused the French Revolution? Why was the French Revolution significant?
8	6 Oct	An Age of Revolutions Part 2	Chapter 18		How were the French and Haitian Revolutions interconnected? What different outcomes occurred in each locale? Why?

	8 Oct	The Industrial Revolution	Chapter 20		How did the emergence of the Industrial Revolution in Europe and North America affect Western Civilization? How did this shape how the western world interacted with other powers around the globe?
9	13 Oct	Thanksgiving – No Class			
	15 Oct	The Long Nineteenth Century in Europe & the Rise of European Nationalism	Chapter 22		What is Nationalism? How has it shaped the world we live in today?
10	20 Oct	The New Imperialism: Industrial Power & Colonial Empires Part 1	Chapter 23		How do notions of Western Civilization relate to colonialism? What role does industrialization play in this relationship?
	22 Oct	Essay Work Session 1: Selecting your Topic and Primary Source			
11	27 Oct	The New Imperialism: Industrial Power & Colonial	Chapter 24		How did Japan respond to European colonization attempts? How

		Empires Part 2 – China & Japan			is this different from other colonized states?
	29 Oct	Essay Work Session 2: Selecting your Secondary Sources			
12	3 Nov	The First World War	Chapter 25		What were the causes of the First World War? What were the most monumental consequences of the conflict on Western powers?
	5 Nov	Essay Work Session 3: Argument, Outline & Introduction			
13	10 Nov	The Russian Revolution			What factors led to the Russian Revolution? How did these factors define Russian communism and how did this new power shape the Western Civilization?
	12 Nov	Essay Work Session 4: Chicago Style Formatting, Preparing your			

		footnotes			
14	17 Nov	**Essay – In-Class**			
	19 Nov	**Essay – In-Class**		**Essay due in class at end of class 30%**	
15	24 Nov	The Interwar Period & the Great Depression	Chapter 26		What factors of the Interwar Period & Great Depression led to World War II?
	26 Nov	The Second World War & After Effects	Chapter 27		What is fascism? What role did the growth of fascism play in shaping World War II? What have the legacies of World War II been in the context of Western civilization?
16	1 Dec	*Final Revision Session*			
	3 Dec	*Drop-in/ Revision Pods*			
17	8 Dec	**Final Exam 25% IN CLASS**			